

Application No.: 09/849,457

Docket No.: JCLA6623-R

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

The Office Action objected to claim 27 because of the informalities. The Office Action also rejected claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ebisawa et al. (U.S. 6,284,342) in view of Duggal et al. (U.S. 6,538,375). The Office Action further rejected claims 1-16, 21 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior in view of Ebisawa et al. (U.S. 6,284,342) and Duggal et al. (U.S. 6,538,375). The Office Action further indicated that claims 26-30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants appreciate this indication of allowable subject matter. Applicants have amended claims 14 and 27 to improve the clarity and to overcome the objection respectively. No new matter is introduced in the application by the amendment made herein. Furthermore, Applicants believe that the amended claim 14 have already been distinguishable over the cited arts. Therefore, claims 14-16, 21 and 23-30 possess allowable claimed feature and withdrawing the rejections to claims 14-16, 21 and 23-25 is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Claim Objection

The Office Action stated that "claim 27 is objected to because of the informality: line 6, before "recess region", "a" should be --the--".

Applicants have amended claim 27 by replacing "a" with "the" to overcome the objection.

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Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

The Office Action rejected claims 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Ebisawa et al. (U.S. 6,284,342) in view of Duggal et al. (U.S. 6,538,375). The Office Action rejected claims 1-16, 21 and 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Admitted Prior Art in view of Ebisawa et al. (U.S. 6,284,342) and Duggal et al. (U.S. 6,538,375). The Office Action further asserted that "Ebisawa clearly shows in Fig. 1 that the active gas-moisture absorption layer 6 is formed at a position in close proximity with "the recess region (or a recessed surface of the recess region)".

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections but have amended claim 14 to clearly define the features according to the invention. As amended, claim 14 recites:

Claim 14. A method for forming a light emitting device, the method comprising:

- providing a covering layer;
- providing a light emitting unit, comprising a metal cathode layer;
- forming a recess region on a covering surface of the covering layer;
- performing an evaporation depositing process, to form an active gas-moisture absorption layer directly in contact with a bottom of the recess region of the covering surface of the covering layer; and
- putting the covering layer with the covering surface having the active gas-moisture absorption layer over at least a portion of the light emitting unit above the metal cathode layer.

(Emphasis added). Applicant submits that claim 14 patently define over the cited arts for at least the reason that the cited art fails to disclose at least the features emphasized above.

More specifically, Ebisawa et al. fail to teach or disclose that the desiccant 6 is disposed directly on the bottom surface of the recess in the sealing plate 3. On the other hand, Ebisawa et al. emphasize that "the desiccant 6 is disposed in a recess in the sealing plate 3 and retained there by a sheet 5 having gas and water permeability" (col. 4, lines 8-10). It is clearly that the desiccant 6 is formed on the surface of the sheet 5 (shown in Fig. 1 of Ebisawa's application), but

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not directly in contact with the bottom surface of the recess region as recited in claim 14.

In other words, if the sheet 5 of Ebisawa is removed, the desiccant 6 is removed also. Therefore, the formation of the desiccant 6 on the sheet 5 is an essential process step in Ebisawa's application. Obviously, Ebisawa et al. fail to disclose or teach or suggest that the desiccant 6 can be fully and directly in contact with the bottom surface of the recess without being held by the sheet 5.

Furthermore, the Admitted Prior Art also fails to disclose or imply the features, such as providing the covering layer with a recess region and having the active gas-moisture absorption layer directly in contact with the bottom of the recess region, of the present invention as recited in claim 14. Similarly, Duggal et al. either fails to supply the missing features in both Admitted Prior Art and Ebisawa, as discussed above.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended independent claim 14 patently defines over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 15-16, 21, and 23-30 patently define over the prior art references as well, wherein claims 26-30 have been considered to be allowable.

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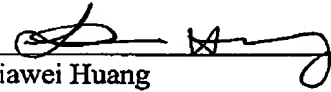
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 14-16, 21, and 23-30 of the invention patentably define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,
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